

REMARKS

Claims 29-38, 40-44, and 46-50 are pending in the present application. Claims 30, 40, and 46 were previously withdrawn. Claims 29, 35, 41, and 47 have been amended.

In the present Office Action dated September 16, 2005, claims 29, 31-38, 41-44, and 47 were rejected. More specifically, the status of the application in light of this Office Action is as follows:

(A) Claims 29 and 32-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,622,947 ("Dockter").

(B) Claims 31, 41-44, and 47-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dockter.

(C) Claims 29, 31-36, 41-44, and 47-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Morphing Aerostructures – An Overview* from www.crgrp.net ("CRGRP").

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for participating in a telephone interview on November 15, 2005. During the interview, the parties agreed that the clarifying language in amended claims 29, 35, 41, and 47 distinguishes over the art of record. Accordingly, for at least this reason, claims 29, 35, 41, and 47 are in condition for allowance. Pending claims 31-34, 36-38, 42-44, and 48-50 depend from claims 29, 35, 41, and 47, respectively. Therefore, for at least this reason, claims 31-34, 36-38, 42-44, and 48-50 are also in condition for allowance. Withdrawn claims 30, 40, and 46 depend from allowable generic claims 29, 41, and 47, respectively. Accordingly, for at least this reasons claims 30, 40, and 46 are in condition for allowance and the undersigned request that these claims be rejoined. Accordingly, all of the claims now pending in the application (claims 29-38, 40-44, and 46-50) are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are patentable over the cited art. The applicant accordingly requests reconsideration of the application and a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call Tim R. Seeley at (206) 359-6477.

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Respectfully submitted,

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